DPN
THE DIGITAL PRESERVATION NETWORK

Getting Down to Business

The DPN Business Model Working Group has been convened to analyze the potential revenue sources and projected expenses for long-term preservation through a federated, heterogenous network of repositories. By the end of 2013 we expect to submit a full business plan to the DPN membership that will provide insight into a number of areas. Some of these areas include: preservation services to be provided, the cost to deposit content, membership fees, and the sustainability plan. We recognize that the DPN environment will change over time; however, we will be able to provide the initial starting point for members to discuss and integrate into their long-term preservation strategies.

On the expense side, the initial focus will be on the expected costs to run a preservation environment on a per-terabyte level. Specifically, we are considering the following types of questions. What should be the one-time payment now in order to preserve a terabyte of content for the next 10, 20, or 50 years? What operating expenses will be covered by membership fees? Will there be tiered membership based upon usage? Should an endowment be established as part of the sustainability model?

Key Members of the Business Model Working Group and Advisors include:

David W. Lewis, Indiana University

Oya Yildirim Rieger, Cornell University

Thomas Wilson, University of Alabama

Kim Douglas, California Institute of Technology

Gail McMillan, Virginia Polytechnic Institute

Katherine Skinner, MetaAchive

Stephen Abrams, California Digital Library

Brad Englert, University of Texas, Austin

Sayeed Choudhury, Johns Hopkins University

David Minor*, University of California, San Diego

Tom Cramer*, Stanford University

Brian Schottlaender, UC, San Diego/Chronopolis

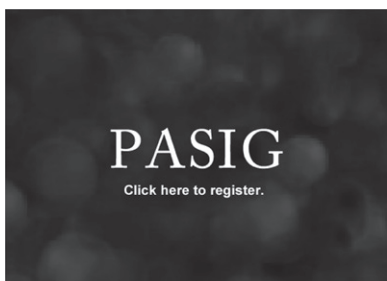* DPN Technical Working Group Liaisons

"We are pleased to be a new member of the Digital Preservation Network. We believe DPN has the potential to become a significant reality in our preservation efforts and we really like the ability to build this collaboratively with so many partner institutions."

- MARVIN BIELAWSKI, DEPUTY UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Governance Structure Development

Tremendous progress has been made regarding the long-term governance structure for DPN. Indiana University president, Michael McRobbie, has been diligently meeting with other university presidents to formulate an initial board of directors, in case a stand-alone entity is the path forward for DPN governance.

The Leadership Team will be meeting with potential board members this fall and will report back to the DPN membership.

Upcoming Events

PASIG - May 22*-24
Washington, DC

*There will be a pre-PASIG DPN Membership half-day technical workshop on May 21.

OR2013 - July 8-12, 2013
Charlottetown, PEI, Canada

XSEDE - July 22-25, 2013
San Diego, CA

DIGITAL PRESERVATION 2013
July 23-25, 2013
Washington, DC

JCDL - July 22-26, 2013
Indianapolis, IN

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iPRES2013 - September 2-5, 2013
Lisbon, Portugal

WOLFRAM DATA SUMMIT
Sept. 5-6, 2013
Washington, DC

PASIG
Click here to register.

Join us prior to the meeting on May 21st for our half-day working session.

Succession Rights Documents Developed

This working group has focused on identifying best practices among the organizations focused on data preservation, and on developing templates that can be used to define the license agreement between a data depositor and a repository and between the repository and DPN. The goal is to complete the investigation and submit a final report by the end of May.

The group has contacted a number of organizations, government agencies, library and data archives, and other initiatives that are focused on the capture, curation, and long-term archiving of digital content. These conversations have led to the conclusion that, although there is a diversity of useful agreements in use today, there is no existing solution that fully advances the interests of DPN.

Two draft documents have been developed. The first is the agreement between a depositor and a repository. The second is the agreement between a repository and DPN. These agreements affirm that DPN should have an understanding of what rights it needs and what repositories request from depositors to ensure that the rights are those needed to deposit content with DPN.

The core elements of these two agreements are a non-exclusive, perpetual, irrevocable license to DPN for the following purposes without limitation:

- To describe, catalog, validate and document the digital assets
- To store, translate, copy, share, or re-format the digital assets in any way to ensure its future preservation and accessibility
- To re-disseminate copies of the digital assets to others willing to disseminate them in the event that the IR is no longer able or willing to provide public access to the digital assets.

The drafts of these important succession rights documents will be provided to the DPN membership for review within the next few months. We are very pleased with the progress being made in this key area and look forward to having the finalized documents in place before the end of the year.

Technical Progress Continues

The Technical Working Group has completed the specification and first development of DPN's messaging infrastructure, which will serve as its "central nervous system." Using AMQP and a DPN-specific protocol for internode communication, the Tech Team has modeled and built all the signals to support the replication of content across the Network. Last month, our work was featured in a presentation at the CNI Spring Member Meeting. Attention is now turning to design of each node's Registry (an inventory of all content and actions in the Network), and further messaging exchanges for content audit and restoration.

On May 21st, the DPN Tech Team will be hosting a half-day working session in advance of PASIG. All DPN members are encouraged to send technical representatives to help advance the Network's technical implementation. You may register using this link.

DPN Charter Member Renewals

Following the technical workshop at PASIG on May 21st, DPN Charter Members will be asked to make a three-year, rolling commitment at $20,000 per year. This rolling commitment will allow DPN to make the necessary long-term investments for personnel and equipment to bring DPN online.

Charter Members are all those institutions that have signed up before or during FY13 ending June 30th and commit to the support of DPN for three additional years. The business plan and expected rollout of services will be presented to DPN Members by the end of 2013. Initial use cases will begin this summer with the expectation of DPN becoming operational early in 2014 for Charter Members.

Q& A

Q: How will content be brightened in the future if the original depositor, or even the First Node, is no longer a part of the network?

A: DPN shall preserve and manage sufficient identity, administrative (including legal and contractual), technical, and descriptive metadata to enable the brightening of content after succession, independent of any contributions or participation by the First Node or original depositor.

We would welcome any questions you may have about DPN. Inquire Here

Steven Morales presents DPN's vision during a Research Data Symposium hosted at Columbia University earlier this year.